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Taylor Cheney / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Second-year graduate student Kelly Herwig volunteered and had her face painted to celebrate USC's "Stop the H8" week. The three-day event is part of a nationwide effort to raise awareness about issues the LGBT community faces.

'Stop the H8'

LGBT awareness event promotes Safe Zone Ally program, acceptance

Taylor Cheney
TCHENEY@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

USC's Safe Zone Ally Project sponsored "Stop the H8" week activities promoting LGBT on-campus awareness in the Russell House on Tuesday.

A "Wall of Hate" was posted on the second floor of the Russell House where students could write any negative terms or phrases they have been called and, in contrast, a "Wall of Hope" where students could write about their commitment to removing prejudice they've experienced. The day also included face painting provided by certified Safe Zone Allies and a "Remembrance Gallery" where students could learn about the victims of LGBT hate crimes.



The events, which kicked off Monday and continue today on Greene Street from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., were planned after Campus Pride, a national non-profit organization that works to create safer college environments for LGBT students, conducted a recent survey that said one-third of LGBT students consider leaving their college or university every year because they do not feel comfortable or accepted.

Fourth-year English student Rebecca Troxell said she attended the event because she realizes the importance of acceptance.

"Every one of my best friends is gay and I know what they go through," she said as she had "Stop H8" painted on her face. "As college students, we all are pretty accepting but I think we could be more so we could set an example to other campuses. There is definitely strength in numbers."

Safe Zone project coordinator and third-year higher education graduate student Drew Newton said improving these numbers, must be a student effort.

"We need to make a stronger commitment to hope rather than pain," Newton said. "These events are made to promote the Carolinian Creed and create more certified Safe Zone allies."

A Safe Zone Ally is known as someone who serves as a safe source of support for resources and guidance both on and off campus. Newton said there are currently more than 500 allies on campus, and although the number of allies has doubled

ALLY • 2

USC student earns national fellowship

Madison Miller receives award for prospective teaching career

Kathryn Kranjc
KKRANJC@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Fourth-year mathematics student Madison Miller will be graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences this semester with up to \$150,000 to jump-start her future career as a teacher.

Miller, a Capstone Scholar and group exercise instructor at the Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center, is one of 37 math and science students across the country to receive the 2011 Knowles Science Teaching Foundation Fellowship Award. Established by Metrologic Instruments founder Harry Knowles, the award provides community and financial support for exceptional future math and science instructors.

Miller is the 10th student and eighth mathematics student from USC to receive the national fellowship. Math education professor Ed Dickey, who advises scholarship applicants, said this achievement reflects on the quality of the math and science programs in conjunction with the College of Education.

"We have a good national standing," Dickey said. "It's really a testament to the quality students that are coming through USC."

Dickey said Miller is one such quality student, maintaining a dedication to and passion for teaching despite current pressures in her field to pursue research. As a Knowles fellow, Miller will receive compensation for her entire teacher education, as well as mentoring and a yearly stipend for classroom materials, technology and community professional development.

Previous fellows in math from USC have continued their education in South Carolina and gone on to work at regional high schools such as Dreher, Lexington and Brookland-Cayce. However, Miller will be breaking tradition and moving closer to her home in Howard County, Md., to attend the University of Maryland for her Masters in Education.

Miller said she had been inclined toward teaching since middle school, but an internship in her senior year of high school confirmed her career choice. She has experience through formal internships and practicum at Dreher High School, informal practice as a tutor at Waverly Community Center and St. Martin de Porres Catholic school and as a University Supplemental Instruction leader. After returning from her scholarship interview in Philadelphia, Miller has found further inspiration from the innovation of her fellow future teachers.

"I love teaching kids of all ages, but it's not an easy job," Miller said. "You've got to be persistent and think outside the box. That's just what I saw from everyone I met [through the fellowship]. It's exciting to learn about how people are finding creative ways to teach and how kids are benefiting."

Miller was assisted in her application by the Office of Fellowships and Scholarship programs. She encouraged any student interested in teaching to search for fellowship opportunities in order to gain a new perspective.

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SAVISkins

Entrepreneurial sisters from Carolina, Clemson offer original, affordable skins for mobile devices

Kristen Jakubowski
NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

A USC student has launched a company that creates, among other products, cell phone and laptop skins.

Samantha August, a third-year international business and management entrepreneurship student, launched her design company SaVi Design last May. August co-founded the business with her sister, Victoria August, a second-year architecture student at Clemson.

Samantha August began graphic designing her freshman year at USC. Not long after, she began designing for various organizations on campus, such as the Club Tennis team, Dinobrite Productions and the Waverly Center After-School Program.

"Because of my previous experiences and business major, I am in charge of the operational side of the company, including managing the website and managing the financials, and my sister designs most of the custom orders," Samantha August said. "These are our primary jobs, but we often overlap."

The company began as a trial run and kept growing. The sisters were able to hire a web coder for a

functional website and acquired a business license this year.

"We are continually expanding and improving our product base and marketing efforts, and are hoping that the company will eventually become well-known at both the city and state levels," Samantha August said.

SaVi Design has multiple options for customers interested in the cell phone and laptop skins.

"The skins are easily removable and don't leave any residue on the phone when taken off," August said. "I have always had an interest in entrepreneurship, so after my dad came up with the idea of designing skins for devices, I designed the website, and my sister and I started the company."

August said she was inspired to create the skins after traveling the world last summer. She recreated the images of designs and landscapes she had never seen in the United States, using a special design software on her laptop.

"Usually when we design skins, we have some sort of inspiration coming either from a request or idea of a friend or an item of clothing we see in a store," she said. "Everything we see around us is stimulating and enables us to keep creating."

She said that the company can make skins for any

SAVI • 4

WEATHER

Wednesday

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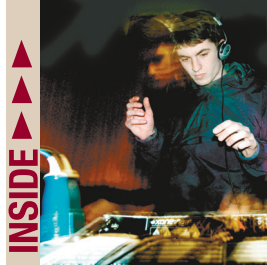


Thursday

79° 55°



MIX



Dubstep

The up-and-coming club genre hits the mainstream with artists Skream, Digital Mystikz and Skrillex.

See page 6

VIEWPOINTS



'Keemin it Real

We should all act as University Ambassadors when we see groups of prospective students touring our campus.

See page 5

SPORTS



USC rolls past Upstate

Patrick Sullivan threw a career-high five innings in Carolina's 18-2 win Tuesday night.

See page 10

TOMS event participants go 'one day without shoes'

TOMS' One Day Without Shoes had people walking barefoot all over campus Tuesday raising awareness of children in developing countries who are subject to infections and diseases because they grow up without shoes. In TOMS' "One for One" campaign, the shoe company donates one pair of new shoes to a child in need for every pair purchased. Although the event is nationwide, the USC TOMS sector, "TOMS at USC," had more than 200 students attending on their Facebook event.

Those who trekked across the Pickens Street bridge barefoot were entered into a raffle for the chance to win a new pair of TOMS. In addition, Salty's Surf Shop organized a barefoot walk from the Horseshoe to its store in Five Points.

Second-year hospitality management student Chelsea Rawls found out about the event through Facebook and immediately decided to participate.

"I'd do it everyday if it could change anything," Rawls said. "I can't imagine how hard it must be for those who have to go barefoot everyday."

— *Compiled by Taylor Cheney, Assistant News Editor*



Brian Almond / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Students jump barefoot in the Horseshoe to garner attention for the philanthropic shoe company, which donates one pair of new shoes to needy children for every pair purchased.



Taylor Cheney / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Second-year hospitality management student Chelsea Rawls participated in “One Day Without Shoes” for the first time and said she considers it a small sacrifice for one day.

ALLY ● Continued from 1

since last year, Newton is still not satisfied.

"500 is great, but in a campus this size we want 5,000," he said. "More Resident Mentors are getting their staff trained and the momentum is growing across campus."

Safe Zone Ally and second-year social work graduate student Kelly Herwig volunteered to paint faces on Tuesday and said it is important not to just spread awareness for

the LGBT community but for anyone who needs help.

"We need to be more inclined to prevent things from happening like Tyler Clementi," she said. Clementi was a Rutgers student who committed suicide after being videotaped during a sexual encounter.

As for the Ally certification, Herwig said she recommends it for everyone who is interested in helping others.

"It helps you better

interact with everyone," she said.

For those interested, there are two upcoming Safe Zone training sessions on campus: April 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Wardlaw College Room 126 and April 15 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Senate Chambers.

"The training is a fun and engaging way to get involved and it is never too late," Newton said. "There [are] no moral concerns and it is done in a comfortable and safe environment."

For more information
or to find an ally on
campus, visit www.sc.sc.edu/shs.

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SAVI • Continued from 1

device.

“Our designs include creative patterns, objects and even skins for sororities that can be found in the Greek section of our website,” August said. “Our customers also have the option of requesting a certain design.”

The items on SaVi Design’s website are reasonably priced for the average college student.

“Our SaVi Design pre-designed phone skins run at \$20 and laptop skins at \$30,” August said. “We also do custom designs for an additional charge of \$5.”

The target market is females between the ages of 15 and 30 years who want a stylish skin to show off on their phones or laptops, she said.

“Our customers are those who want to stand out and make a statement.”

Fourth-year marketing and management student Isabel Arias said she operates as a consultant to August as part of her project in the business school. Though she hasn’t purchased any of August’s products, Arias said she

plans to and considers the skins to be a great gift.

“I think it’s a great business that offers a really unique product. Sam has a lot of creative talent, and you can really see that in what she designs,” Arias said. “One really cool thing about SaVi is that they will custom-make designs for you, and pretty much no one else will do this.”

All products are currently available online at be-savi.com. Currently, the company is looking into moving into retail stores in the Columbia area.

Other services include logo designs, event posters designs, advertisements, invitations and more. These can be requested on the Services page on the website.

August said The Daily Gamecock readers can receive \$5 off their next SaVi Design purchase by entering the code “dailygamecock” at checkout.

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Campus needs major maintenance overhaul

Our campus is looking about as good as Gov. Nikki Haley’s relationship with Darla Moore — not very good at all.

You know things are bad when the consulting firm tells us that in order to bring USC to a “satisfactory” level of maintenance, we would need \$560 million. You know things are even worse than you had expected when the director of the facilities department tells us that if we spend around \$15 million on maintenance each year, we might have a satisfactory-level university in 130 years.

Here’s our advice.

First, our existing funds should be spent primarily on what is immediately needed, such as patching the four holes in the roof of the law school and not on things we don’t need, like USC Connect. Yes, funds would have to be shifted in order to take care of these problems, and they should be shifted immediately.

“The money we currently have should be used to fix what’s breaking instead of building a plethora of new things.”

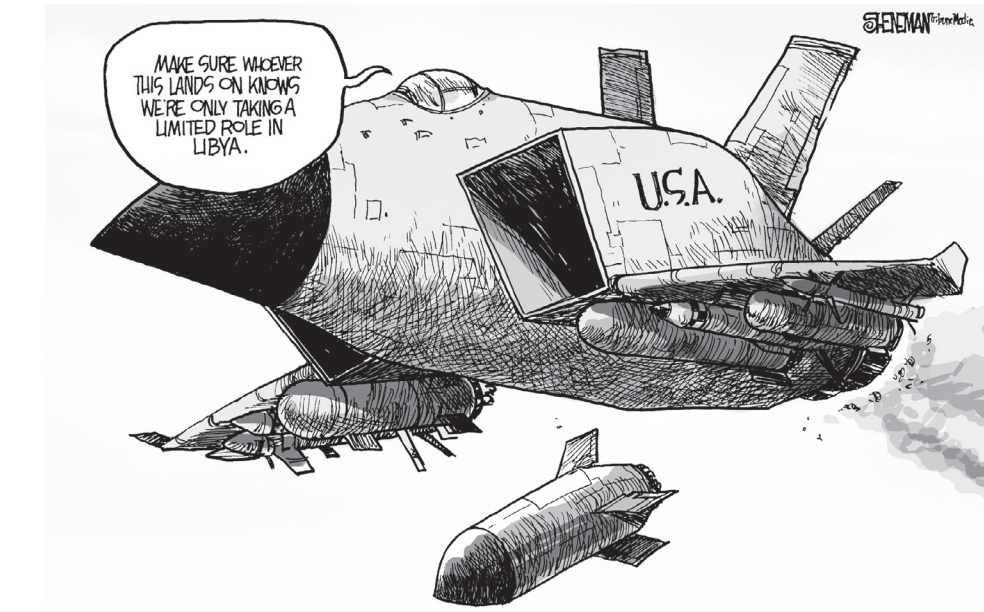
Second, the money we currently have should be used to fix what’s breaking instead of building a plethora of new things.

We understand the university dreams big, and we understand there are many projects out there that could make our school a better place. We want these projects to happen.

But no matter how impressive the Strom Thurmond and Fitness Center looks or how new the Honors Residence Hall is, beat-up buildings like Bates House and McBryde Quad still exist. Ignoring our problems won’t make them go away.

Last, if we can’t get enough money from the state or from the university stock, USC should raise funds privately to get money for maintenance. The funds we currently have aren’t nearly enough to fix the 26,000 maintenance requests, and USC needs to step it up quickly.

One hundred thirty years is a long time. If USC doesn’t start allocating its funds more wisely, our campus may never improve before the next ice age.



DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE
Peace Corps behavior shameful

Corruption, negligence within institution unacceptable, must be reformed

Of the organizations in America we would expect to be corrupt, the last thing on the list would be a service group that claims to be devoted to world peace and friendship. Every year, thousands of young adults sign up to be a part of the Peace Corps, one of America’s most respected national service organizations, with grandiose ideals of devoting their years of selfless service and sacrifice to better the lives of the underprivileged all around the world.



Alice Chang
First-year international business student

However, a recent unveiling showed that numerous Peace Corps volunteers got a little more than what they had signed up for. In January of this year, ABC News aired six women who told stories of being violently raped and assaulted, even almost killed while abroad. Not only did they undergo traumatic experiences, they were offered no support by the Peace Corps and were instead blamed for the rapes. The Peace Corps told them to lie to cover up their experiences, telling one woman to tell others that she had to go back to America to get her wisdom teeth removed. Another woman was forced, in one of the only three counseling sessions she was given, to write down everything she did wrong that caused her to get raped.

These women are not alone. Between 2000 and 2009, there have been 221 rapes or attempted rapes, 147 major sexual attacks

and 719 other sexual assaults — instances the Peace Corps have succeeded in masking the public from for over a decade.

There are few words that can be used to describe how disgusting it is that something like this could stem from an organization of our own federal government, and it is even more disgusting that there are thousands, if not more, eager young volunteers out there who are not informed of the dangers involved with the Peace Corps and the maltreatment to which they would very likely be subjected. Rather than openly admit its mistakes and restructure the program to begin to fix what obviously are serious, life-threatening problems, the Peace Corps has instead tried to hide them, luring naive volunteers into a false trap of security in order to maintain their image and reputation.

This is just another tragic case of politics and the failure of those too blinded by it to realize that there are few things in the world more important than the preservation of a human life. It is ironic that in attempts to better the lives of those in the rest of the world, we are allowing hundreds of our own lives to be lost, endangered and irreversibly damaged.

Congress has been investigating these Peace Corps cases, and we can only hope that in the future, people will be more wary before signing themselves into this corrupt organization. At the same time, the Peace Corps would do well to remind itself of what it truly stands for, because any “philanthropic” organization that guilt-trips rape victims and promotes hideous lies does not deserve to exist.

Trump’s rants harm image in candidacy

‘Birther’ debate moot point

Something is wrong when Glenn Beck and Bill O’Reilly think a potential Republican presidential candidate is crazy.

Donald Trump, who is considering a presidential run, recently set off a media storm when he



Michelle Fantone
Fourth-year political science student

brought up the “birther” debate by suggesting that not only is President Barack Obama’s birth certificate not real, but that his birth announcement in the local newspaper was a forgery.

The claims suggest there was some conspiracy to put young Obama in the White House back in 1961. It’s just plain weird that Trump has chosen to reignite this issue, which almost all conservative politicians have conceded is no longer a concern.

Beck went as far as to say Trump made him feel “uncomfortable,” calling him a “showboater” and saying “we could get serious candidates who could shake things up by not saying provocative things” — an ironic statement coming from Beck.

O’Reilly called Trump out during an interview, saying that not only does he disagree with Trump’s birth certificate nonsense, but he doesn’t believe Trump believes it himself.

It is this notion that really sheds light on Trump’s act. His latest crusade is simply an act to get attention from the media and the public, and it is this false attitude that cheapens everything else Trump could possibly stand for as a potential candidate. Despite what you may think of this notion, any good qualities Trump may have to be a good president are going to be overshadowed by his raising Cain over a moot point.

While the idea of Trump as a candidate was intriguing at first, I’ve come to agree he does not actually believe this birther nonsense.

His rants are contrived and ridiculous, and in the end they will backlash on him.

Guest column: University Housing unreliable

Students must do research, have backup plans to living arrangements

It’s that time again: the season for housing selection.

After thinking our options over, my roommates and I decided to live on campus for the third year.

This decision was made almost exclusively because of the convenience that living on campus provides — being only blocks and minutes away from classes has saved us countless amounts of time and energy these past two years. After receiving absolutely no communication about the new (and supposedly better) housing selection system and the time of my online appointment, I contacted one of the higher-ups at University Housing and stayed in contact with her for weeks on end, asking numerous questions to ensure that the process would go smoothly.

I was told that I had one of the very first online appointments, giving me the impression that my roommates and I would have our pick of apartments in the quads. We were optimistic and

excited about the potential results.

Fast-forward to my appointment time in the early hours of a Thursday morning. After logging on to the system, I shockingly find that not one apartment in the quads is available — the only rooms left are in freshman dorms. Based on the information I had gotten, we assumed there was a flaw in the system. That morning, many calls to University Housing resulted in several different explanations for the results we had gotten, ranging from that the housing system didn’t work between the hours of 11 p.m. and 10 a.m. to that the system itself was broken. Finally I received confirmation from the assignments office: Despite having been told that we had one of the first appointment times, there were no more spots available.

This put us in panic mode. Thinking we were good to go, we hadn’t paid any attention to the off-campus housing fairs on Greene Street or the special leasing deals advertised by the apartment complexes. Now we were told that, because we started this process so late, we needed to hurry up and commit if we wanted to be guaranteed

a spot off campus. The four of us signed a lease that night, having done virtually no research on the complexes.

Although I know it’s not common at USC, is it too much to ask that a few juniors have a spot to live on campus? Is it too much to ask that students get accurate information? Housing made a total of \$200 off our nonrefundable “application fees,” and if we had waited another day to cancel our applications, they would have made \$600 more off each of us.

The four of us are more than happy to wash our hands of the incredibly poor service provided by University Housing and the astronomical fees associated with it. USC Housing, get your act together. Stop robbing us of our sanity and money. Stop misinforming us. USC students, don’t depend completely on Housing for accurate information. And learn a lesson from my roommates and me: Do your research, and have a backup plan no matter what they tell you.

— Samantha Lunsford, second-year early education student

IT’S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock’s Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community. All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on dailygamecock.com.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via e-mail to gamecockeditor@sc.edu. Letters must be 200 to 300 words in length and include the author’s name,

year in school and area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author’s name and position. Guest columns are limited to three per author per semester.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

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CORRECTIONS

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Dubstep pulses with rhythm, bass

Skream, Digital Mystikz, Skrillex mix percussion tracks, beats

Mary Cathryn Armstrong
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

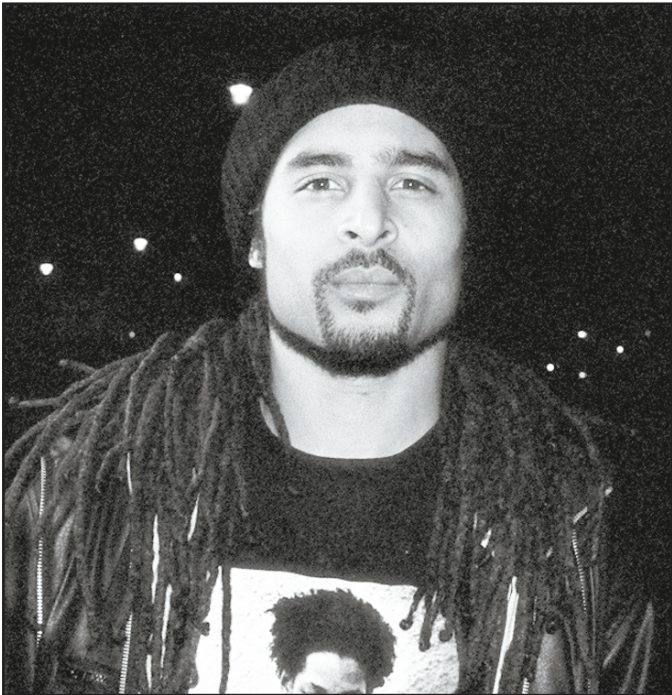
What is it?

It starts off slow, and for a while the only sounds that meet your ear are soft twinkles of rhythmic synth and pulse-pounding drum mixes. The sound is both real and supernatural all at once, and it doesn't take long to get lost in the swaying beat. Then the bass drops. This, ladies and gentlemen, is dubstep.

It's hard to describe dubstep in just a few words. Although the genre has been on the underground music radar for quite some time now, it's just now seeing the light of day in terms of mainstream success. And it's not hard to see why. Dubstep combines countless varieties of bass, tempo and tone, all into one song. Sure, this has the potential to come out messy, but it's the unkempt no-holds-barred style that makes it one of the most unique genres out there. Every section of just one dubstep track flows together flawlessly, with each highly-detailed piece of the rhythmic puzzle fitting together with ease.

What makes it awesome?

Dubstep creation can be summed up in basically one word: freedom. Just about every single track is distinctly different from the last. You'll never hear a true dubstep connoisseur comparing two artists because, well, there is no comparison. No two artists are ever truly alike — one may prefer the faster up-tempo beats and another may prefer dropping a deep bass every 10 seconds into the cut, but their works are all seamlessly perfected and altered to fit their musical persona.



Courtesy of elasticartists.net

Mala (above) and Coki from London-based group Digital Mystikz has found an international following in the genre.



Courtesy of truetosound.net

Oliver Jones, the man behind dubstep act Skream, is known for his experimental hits and remixes of other artists in the genre.

Something else that makes dubstep stand out — the musical combinations. Elements like strong percussion, weaving patterns and creative timing are all key when creating dubstep, and though they may not seem to fit in the process, it all comes together at the end. The sound is unencumbered, and sometimes wild, but always ear-pleasing. And, just when you think the song is over, the drop grabs you again. Paces can change from a slow drawl to a racing pulse in a matter of seconds, making it the perfect soundtrack for dance clubs and raves all over the world.

The Best in the Biz:

There are countless dubstep artists in the world today, located in every corner and at every end of the earth. It's hard to even scratch the surface of the best in the business, but some of the pioneers of the movement have been cutting their chops for quite some time now.

Skream: Oliver Jones, better known as Skream in the music industry, is one of the most well-recognized producers of the dubstep genre. An artist himself, Skream has become widely known throughout the dubstep community for his harmonious experimentations as well as a variety of remixes by other artists in his genre. Skream has released countless EPs, remixes and compilations since the beginning of his career in the early 2000s, and is even part of grime trio Magnetic Man, which includes dubstep giants Benga and Artwork.

Digital Mystikz: Straight out of London come Mala and Coki, a pair who have risen to fame throughout the

club scene for their “dubseessive” addiction. The two, who have been together since they were teenagers, take their act around the globe, sprouting dubstep fan bases from Dusseldorf, Germany to their own backyard. Their version of dubstep fuses together elements of tender rhythms with futuristic-sounding beats that have developed into their own record label (DMZ), as well as nightclub DMZ in London.

Skrillex: Although his name kind of sounds like something you might wash a kitchen sink with, Skrillex means serious business when it comes to dubstep. Although he dabbles in a variety of electronica and breakbeat music, Sonny Moore has most recently become known for his dubstep cuts, even DJing MTV's 2011 Woodie Awards. Skrillex has released only a few albums and singles, but has done countless remixes with other dubstep greats. Skrillex was also featured at this year's SXSW festival alongside MSTRKRFT and Jakwob.

Where to get it:

The best way to discover new dubstep is simple: type it into Google and see what comes up. Rest assured you won't be disappointed.

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Villa Tronco keeps Italian cuisine in family



Photos by Parker Jeannette / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Villa Tronco, on Blanding Street, is a family-owned Italian restaurant, offering the best homemade dishes and desserts.

Five-generation history adds to local restaurant's atmosphere

Kevin Walker
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Self-proclaimed “Columbia's Oldest and Finest Italian Restaurant,” Villa Tronco originated as a family fruit store on Gervais Street, and moved into a restored 19th-century fire station and historical landmark at 1213 Blanding St. The building dates back to the Civil War and was one of the few buildings left standing after the burning of Columbia.

Today, owner Carmella Roche continues to serve her grandmother's famous recipes at the local Italian restaurant, open for lunch Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner Monday through Friday 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Inside the restaurant, there are many artifacts and photographs from the old firehouse and a plaque mounted on the front of the restaurant that reads: “Palmetto Engine Company Incorporated, December 21, 1858.” The building and the restaurant stand as living history of Columbia's past. The weathered red bricks and aged wooden stable doors make this picturesque restaurant seem straight from a postcard.

Low lighting and small, separated dining rooms create an intimate and cozy atmosphere for customers. In the back of the restaurant, a horse stable formerly used by the fire station has been opened up and made into a dining quarter with natural skylights casting light onto the tables.

The menu has a touch of the Italian language, but it could be entirely Greek and not make a difference, because customers are overwhelmed with the deliciousness of each dish. From pizza to pasta, and cheesecake to gelato, Villa Tronco does it right. And with large portions, customers are guaranteed to get their money's worth. Homemade cheesecakes are delectable, with whole cakes available in five different flavors: amaretto, plain, chocolate, Oreo and marble. Other imported Italian desserts and ingredients are shipped in for an authentic Italian influence, including the restaurant's pasta, olive oil and cheese.

On Monday nights, Villa Tronco has Pasta Night, which offers a bowl of pasta of your choice with a side salad and homemade bread for just \$8. The Palmetto Opera singers also entertain patrons on the first Thursday of every month — reservations are typically required on these days, considering the opera's popularity. While its atmosphere

makes it perfect for dates or for when your parents come to town, Villa Tronco does cater for small formal gatherings and parties as well.

Family is at the cornerstone of the establishment, with Villa Tronco approaching its fifth generation of ownership. Sadie Carnaggia, fondly known as “Mama Tronco,” moved to Columbia with her parents, brothers and sisters in 1901. James Tronco was stationed at Camp Jackson during World War I and met Sadie at her father's fruit store on Gervais Street. By 1918, Sadie and James were married.

The couple then opened a fruit store of their own called Iodine Fruit Store. After World War II, Sadie met a lot of Northern soldiers of Italian descent stationed at Fort Jackson, who longed for their mothers' home cooking. “Mama Tronco” delivered, beginning to cook spaghetti and meatballs for the soldiers, and even introduced them to pizza, which hadn't yet made its way to Columbia. This Italian cuisine's popularity changed Iodine Fruit Store to Iodine Grill and then to Villa Tronco.

The restaurant was fortunate enough to have Sadie working in the restaurant until her death in 1988. Sadie's daughter and son-in-law, Carmella and Henry Martin, remained in the business for 41 years until it was taken over by their daughter, also Carmella, and her husband Joe Roche.

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‘Insidious’ drops torture for mindplay

Film uses classic horror over gore, bloodshed to scare audiences

Aaron Jenkins
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

**“Insidious”
NOW IN THEATERS**

Director: James Wan
Starring: Patrick Wilson, Rose Byrne, Ty Simpkins
Rating: PG-13 for violence, terror, frightening images, language



Even if their names don’t ring a bell, just about everyone knows the work of director and writer pair James Wan and Leigh Whannell. They created 2004’s low budget grisly horror film “Saw,” which was later made into a multi-million dollar franchise.

In many ways, their new film “Insidious” feels like an apology for what happened in the aftermath of that film. Unlike “Saw,” “Insidious” has no bloodshed and zero scenes of torture. Rather, it sets its focus on classical psychological horror.

Essentially, “Insidious” is a typical haunted house/demonic possession film. It’s a few parts “Paranormal Activity” (2007), with a bit of “The Omen” (1976) and a dab of “Poltergeist” (1982).

It isn’t original at all, but the plot isn’t really what drives “Insidious.” Instead, it is simply the excuse for Wan and Whannell to pour all of their favorite horror tropes into a single film. “Insidious” is packed with just about every frightening cliché imaginable, whether it’s creepy children, witch-like old women, shadowy figures, gas masks, satanic demons or bloody handprints. In the hands of a lesser director, the film could have come off as absurdly derivative. However, Wan manages to make the most out of every moment.

Handheld cameras are used frequently, and shots are situated at extreme angles or

uncomfortably close, giving many scenes a sense of paranoid nausea.

Wan knows horror camera work so well that he cleverly exploits it. One of the tensest scenes in the entire film involves a sight line match between two characters staring up at the ceiling, and the reverse of what they are seeing. Nothing inherently frightening is shown, but as the music intensifies and the time intervals between cuts change, the dread is almost unbearable. It’s classic horror filmmaking: manipulating what can and can’t be seen, letting the audience’s imagination chew at their nerves.

Unfortunately, for all its perfectly timed scares and nail-biting tension, “Insidious” takes a rather sharp nose dive in its final act. In an attempt to differentiate itself from similar haunted house films, “Insidious” abandons the intimacy of the single house as its plot begins concerning itself with astral projections and an alternate dimension filled with demons. One might think that opening up the film to a larger scope would allow for more creativity. However, with a haunted house story, the subversion of the familiar is what unnerves and an alternate dimension is just about as unfamiliar as it gets.

Wan’s skill as a director remains present for the entire film, which keeps the final act frightening, but reduced to a mere shallow fear. Near the end, there is no time spent building tension, resulting in jump scare after predictable jump scare.

As scary as it may be, “Insidious” has a certain degree of self-awareness, with a surprising amount of comedic relief and gags strewn throughout. Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne each deliver performances far beyond what “Insidious” demands, lending convincing humanity to their characters, even once everything descends into absurdity. In addition to that, the excellent score, composed by Joseph Bishara, is filled with music that ranges from gorgeously tragic to unbearably harsh. “Insidious” is undeniable horror schlock, but all this combined with Wan’s skill behind the camera make it an intense thrill ride.

Nothing new comes from “Insidious,” but it is a great example of how the old

horror tricks can still work wonders. It has a lot of script and pacing problems, and the latter half is very rough, but it is nonetheless a terrifying and hilarious

horror movie that should not be missed.

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Courtesy of AP Exchange

Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne star in James Wan’s new psychological horror film “Insidious.”

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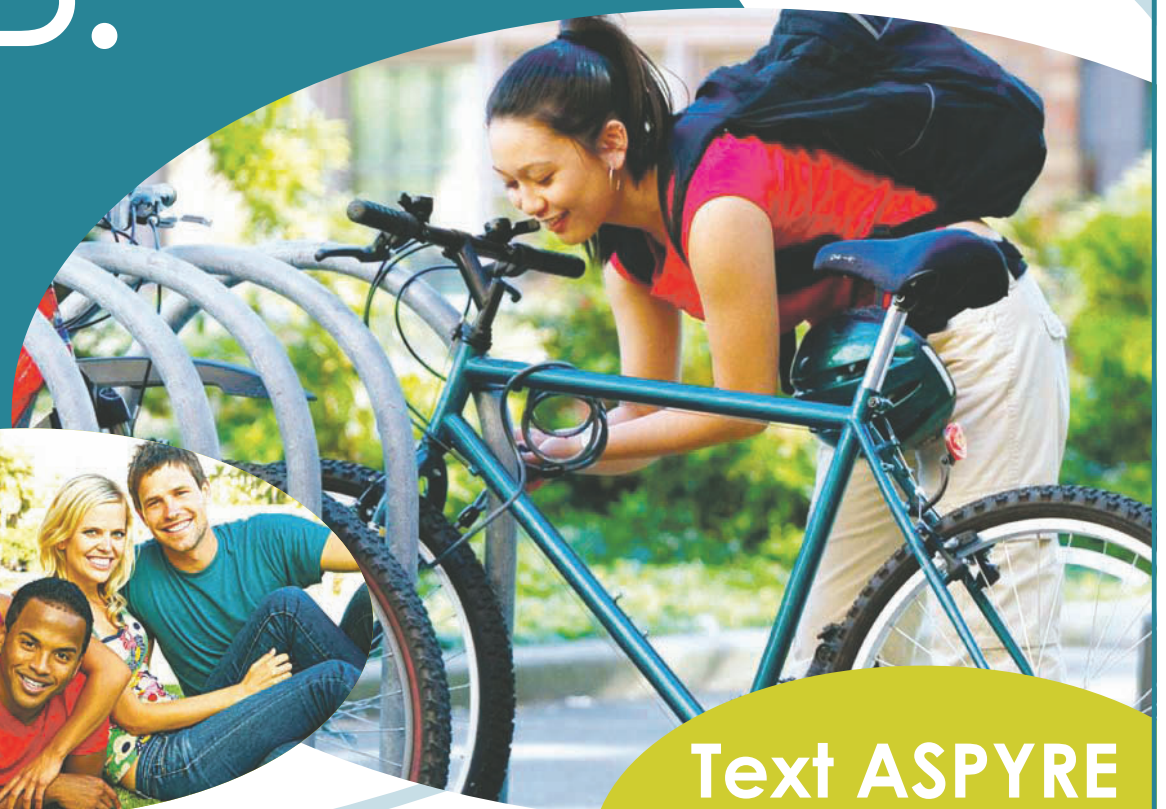
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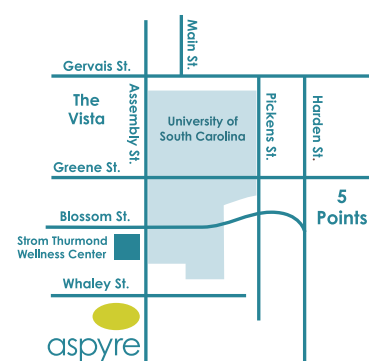
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NEAL’S TRAILER PARK

Summer is drawing closer, meaning it is about time for Hollywood to release films that will assault your eardrums and blow your minds to mush with explosions. Dear readers, suppress your unrelenting excitement as “blockbuster season” quickly approaches. Usually preceding “blockbuster season” is the purgatory of trailers and less notable (boring) films. So, instead of spending time on a film that doesn’t even have a car chase, let’s examine the trailers of this summer’s upcoming films.

Neal Hughes
NHUGHES@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM



Courtesy of hollywoodhumor.com
Zach Galifianakis (left), Bradley Cooper, Justin Bartha and Ed Helms star in the upcoming comedy “The Hangover Part II,” due out this May.

1. “The Hangover Part II”

If the trailer is any indicator, “The Hangover Part II” is going to be exactly like the first, with a different location and missing person. I enjoyed “The Hangover” (I didn’t grovel at its “greatness,” like most people my age), but I can say I am not too impressed with the sequel’s trailer. Director Todd Phillips seems to be taunting the audience by saying, “I know you are going to come see this movie regardless, so why would I write a new script? I’ll just change a few things and still make a ton of money.” He’s made it, more or less, the iPhone of films.

Director: Todd Phillips
Starring: Bradley Cooper, Zach Galifianakis, Ed Helms

2. “Tree of Life”

After watching “The Tree of Life” trailer, you will have learned absolutely nothing except that the movie stars Brad Pitt and he hits children. Twice. Outside of that wonderful factoid, the trailer looks like it was ripped from Discovery Channel’s “Life.” However, this is Terrence Malick’s (“Thin Red Line”) fifth feature film he has directed in the past 38 years, so it is hard not to be intrigued. It will be an overarching film that will move very slowly, but is sure to be Oscar bait.

Director: Terrence Malick
Starring: Brad Pitt, Sean Penn, Jessica Chastain

3. “The Green Lantern”

“The Green Lantern” released a four-minute-long extended trailer recently that made the movie look, well, farcical. Not knowing much about the Green Lantern (played by Ryan Reynolds) except that he has a powerful ring that shoots lasers, I was completely shocked to see all the weird creatures in the trailer, including a Green Lantern jellyfish (to his credit his stingers are a better weapon than Reynolds’ Ring Pop). The trailer looks goofy, Ryan Reynolds doesn’t play the serious role well at all and the film has enough animation to rival “Sucker Punch” (definitely a bad thing). So, I can’t really say that this movie looks decent in good conscience.

Director: Martin Campbell
Starring: Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard

4. “Hobo with a Shotgun”

The title says it all. This film is about a hobo with a shotgun. I just watched this trailer and found myself circling the release on my calendar (figuratively speaking). The film will be a complete joke, but judging by the trailer, it knows that. Instead of trying to take itself too seriously (yeah “Green Lantern,” everyone is staring at you), it will just be an over-the-top display of guns, gore and most likely gratuitous nudity. I hope to be thoroughly offended.

Director: Jason Eisener
Starring: Rutger Hauer, Gregory Smith, Robb Wells

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TODAY

TOMORROW



MATISYAHU W/ TREVOR HALL
8 p.m., free
Koger Center, 1051 Greene St.

6 p.m. doors / 8 p.m. show,
free
The White Mule,
1530 Main St

WHAT: College
Republicans Meeting
WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Russell House
room 305

04/06/11

Coffee House
Tuesday 8PM
Shandon House
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Bible Study
Sunday 10AM
Shandon Baptist
5250 Forest Dr.

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- 5 Election night fig.
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- 7 Bad way to play
- 8 Collars can hide them
- 9 Former Radiohead label
- 10 As far as the eye
can see: Abbr.
- 11 Dovelike
- 12 Batman and
Robin et al.
- 13 King of the Huns, in
Norse myth

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Sullivan leads way in Carolina romp



Elissa Visotski / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sophomore right-hander Patrick Sullivan threw a career-high five innings on Tuesday night, earning the win in South Carolina's 18-2 victory over Palmetto State foe USC-Upstate.

Gamecocks thrash USC-Upstate, 18-2

Paulina Berkovich
PBERKOVICH@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Patrick Sullivan had not started a game this season prior to Tuesday’s matchup against USC-Upstate. He had pitched 4.1 innings in three relief appearances to earn his place in what coach Ray Tanner described as an unsettled rotation. But the sophomore delivered a strong start, pitching a career-high five innings and retiring the last 10 batters he faced. His strong start, combined with an offensive explosion, allowed the Gamecocks to coast to an 18-2

victory. “It was a great opportunity. I was glad to finally get out there and get a chance,” Sullivan said. “I threw well — got behind a lot of hitters, though. I probably could have thrown a lot more strikes, but it was a good experience.” The No. 3 Gamecocks wasted no time in getting on the board with a five-run first inning. Shortstop Peter Mooney led off the game with a four-pitch walk, and second baseman Scott Wingo followed with a two-run home run. After Christian Walker singled and stole second, Adrian Morales drove him in with a single that went off Upstate second baseman Austin Liput’s glove. Jake Williams grounded into a fielder’s choice for Carolina’s

first out of the inning, advancing Morales to second. With consecutive singles from Brady Thomas and Robert Beary and a walk to Evan Marzilli, the Gamecocks scored their fourth run, loaded the bases and ended starter Scott DeCecco’s night. Greg Brodzinski drove in a run with a groundout before Mooney flied out to end the first. “[The run support] definitely makes it a lot easier to go out there and pitch, especially with it being my first time out there,” Sullivan said. “We’ve got a great team, great offense and defense especially. I felt comfortable going out there and trying to pound the zone, throw fastballs ahead and throw a couple of risky sliders.” The Gamecocks (23-5) added

two runs in the second on a wild pitch and an RBI single from Williams and two more in the third on an RBI double by Walker. After two scoreless innings, they scored their tenth run in the sixth inning when Thomas singled in Morales. In the seventh, Carolina saw another offensive burst. After the Gamecocks loaded the bases on a hit batsman and two walks, Walker cleared the bases with a grand slam. A walk and four consecutive singles brought in two more runs to build Carolina’s lead to 16-1. S o p h o m o r e A d a m Westmoreland surrendered a run on three hits in the eighth inning, but the Gamecocks immediately reclaimed the ground they lost.

They scored their final two runs of the night on three straight base hits to start the bottom of the eighth. Will Casey pitched a scoreless ninth inning to close out the Spartans (11-19). “Will Casey has made some strides,” said coach Ray Tanner. “He seems to be better than he’s been in a long time. And we wanted to get Adam back out there. So it worked out perfectly as far as our pitching was concerned. I was hoping Patrick would be comfortable maybe three or four innings. He was pretty efficient, giving us five. That was outstanding.”

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Slimmer Jerideau hoping to start

Former junior college transfer playing well after offseason weight loss, aiming to crack top of depth chart

James Kratch
JKRATCH@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Byron Jerideau’s football career at Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College ended in December of 2009. After the Greyhounds fell to Blinn (Texas) College and some guy named Cameron Newton in the National Junior College Athletic Association semifinals, the Green Pond, S.C., native began to think about which four-year institution he would transfer to. Jerideau had a handful of Division I offers on the table at the time. He could have taken one of those during the junior college signing period and moved on. But, Jerideau chose to stay on campus in Fort Scott for one more semester to try and solicit more offers. The decision paid off, as Jerideau got the offer he truly wanted: South Carolina’s. The Colleton County High product signed, fulfilling his dream of becoming a Gamecock. However, Jerideau admits in hindsight that last semester at Fort Scott also had a negative effect. After signing with USC and while he waited to finish classes and head to Columbia, Jerideau gained weight. “I think it was that semester, that extra spring where I stayed there to get more offers,” Jerideau said. “I was just chilling.” Jerideau’s “chilling” led to him arriving at USC well over his junior college playing weight of around 315 pounds. “He came in 345, 350, whatever it was,” said USC defensive line coach Brad Lawing. The added bulk made Jerideau’s transition to playing in the Southeastern Conference that much more difficult. The weight made it hard for him to move on the field. Jerideau still managed to play a limited role during the season, recording 10 tackles, two of which were sacks, in 10 games. And he helped carry coach Steve Spurrier to midfield following the Gamecocks’ SEC East-clinching victory at Florida. But, Jerideau struggled with a bad injury toward the end of the season, which hampered his ability to perform. “It was a setback,” Jerideau said of the injury. “I guess that [it] probably was because of the weight.” The injury was a wake-up call, Jerideau said. He realized he had to lose weight, and lose it not just to better perform on the football field, but also for his own well-being.



File Photo

Byron Jerideau (center) dedicated himself to a rigorous offseason regimen in order to lose weight, and it has paid off.

“He was headed to probably 400 pounds in another couple of years,” said Lawing, who said Jerideau couldn’t bend over and touch his toes before the weight loss. “That’s not healthy for anyone.” Jerideau worked all offseason to lose weight and improve his condition. His methods were free of fad diets or eccentric workout regimens; he simply worked hard and changed his diet. “I stopped eating beef, stopped eating pork, stopped eating bread,” Jerideau said. “It was coach Lawing’s idea, and it worked.” It has. When Jerideau took the field this spring for practice, he did so back at his old playing weight. “The main thing Jerideau has done is change his body,” Lawing said. He couldn’t move. He’s changed his

body so he is now able to do the things that we ask him. “He eats better, feels better about himself. He’s doing a good job for us right now. He’s made tremendous improvement.” The weight loss has brought added sense of confidence for Jerideau. Coming from the junior college Jayhawk Conference to the SEC was a culture shock. Jerideau struggled with the adjustment at first. “Half the people at junior colleges are never going to play football again,” Jerideau said. “There’s a big difference going against them to going against people that are your size, and bigger and strong. There’s a big adjustment in the speed too.”

JERIDEAU ● Continued from 10

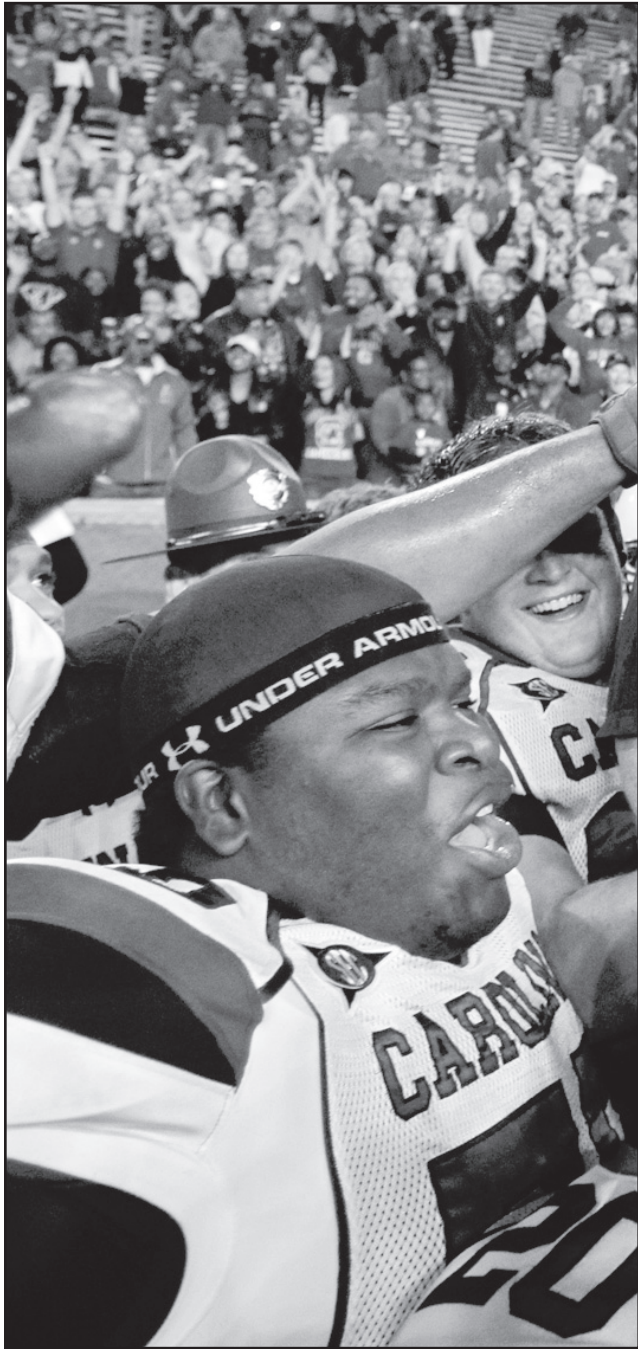
After a season in the program and the conference, Jerideau said he has now adapted to the SEC level.

"It's a big comfort level as far as being on the field," Jerideau said. "When I first got here, I was kind of hesitant about the plays and what do I do. Now, I know it. I'm comfortable on the field."

With the weight loss behind him, Jerideau said he is looking to conquer another goal and start for USC on the defensive line. He said starting was a "cause" that drove him throughout the entire process to drop the weight.

Whether he achieves that goal or not, he has the respect of his position coach.

"I admire someone whenever they can be disciplined enough to push away from the dinner table and do a little bit extra work," Lawing said. "He's done a great job. He really has. He's got to continue; it's an ongoing procedure for him, because he knows that that extra piece of bacon or whatever can mean the difference in not performing well and performing well."



John Raoux / The Associated Press

Jerideau was one of several Gamecocks to help lift coach Steve Spurrier off the ground and carry him to midfield in the aftermath of USC's 36-14 win at Florida this past November to clinch the SEC Eastern Division.

Comments on this story? Visit dailygamecock.com/sports

Football Spring Practice Schedule

Tonight

7 p.m.
Bluff Road Practice Fields

Tuesday, April 12

4 p.m.
Bluff Road Practice Fields

Saturday, April 9

Garnet and Black Spring Game at
1 p.m.
Williams-Brice Stadium

Thursday, April 14

4 p.m.
Bluff Road Practice Fields

Jackie Bradley Jr. day-to-day after suffering back injury in weight room

Outfielder's status up in air; Walker has big night

Paulina Berkovich
SPORTS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

When the Gamecocks took the field against USC Upstate, a key face was missing from their lineup. Jackie Bradley Jr. sat out the game after he injured his back in the weight room on Monday.

"I didn't even know [Tuesday] that he had an issue on Monday," said coach Ray Tanner. "It was an easy day. It was an optional day in the weight room. With our schedule, it's hard to get an ample amount of lifts in. A lot of those guys will go in on an off day to get some work done. Apparently he just did an RDL (Romanian Deadlift) and it just caught him a little bit in his back."

"He said he thought he was fine, swinging and everything. Bending over was an issue for him, but we laughed and said, 'You're not playing second or short, so you should be OK,'" Tanner continued. "He seemed to be happy with batting practice, and he started jogging to the outfield and got to the first-base coaching box and it was over. He said it was too much for him."

It is not yet certain when Bradley will be able

to take the field again.

"He's seeing a doctor right now," Tanner said. "We're somewhat optimistic. That being said, I don't know. I don't know if he's going to be shut down or if he's going to be able to play or not."

Career game for Walker: Christian Walker's five hits, five RBIs and four runs scored were all career highs for the sophomore, who currently leads the Gamecocks with 40 hits and 33 RBIs on the season.

"It's nice to have the kind of night that he had. That's not easy to do," Tanner said. "Sometimes when you look around and your comrades aren't there to protect you, you might not get as many pitches as you would have otherwise. He had a big night. He's a good player. His hand-eye coordination is really good. He's seeing it pretty [well], and he can square some balls up."

"It was a great night for him. You want your guys to feel good about

their swings going into the weekend in order to have a good game before you hit the road."

Walker does not believe he has any extra responsibility to pick up slack caused by Bradley's absence.

"It's hard to take Jackie's place, but we've got guys who can fill in and play a role," Walker said. "[Evan Marzilli] is great in the outfield. I don't feel like I have an extra weight on my back at all. I just try to play my game and get hits."

Full team effort: All nine starters had at least one base hit for USC, and 12 hitters reached base for the Gamecocks. Erik Payne, who pinch-hit for Adrian Morales in the seventh inning, knocked in two runs with a double in his second at-bat. The hit was his first in a Gamecock uniform.

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Former USC football players deal with uncertainties of sports career

NFL labor situation worries ex-Gamecocks

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Former South Carolina offensive tackle Jarriel King grew up a Pittsburgh Steelers fan. However, the North Charleston native will gladly forget past allegiances if it will help to further his professional career.

"Wherever I [may] go, I'm a fan of that team," King said. "If the [Baltimore] Ravens and [Cleveland] Browns (the Steelers' AFC North rivals) call, I'm going to have to take their call and say 'What's going on? How we doing? Let's talk.'"

King's attitude is no different than any other college football player trying to transition from the collegiate game to the professional realm. For them, the game they love has become a job, and they themselves have become part of a lucrative business.

"It's about your living now," said former tailback Brian Maddox. "It's no more [playing in college]. You're getting paid for doing what you love to do."

However, for the 14 former USC athletes who participated in the team's pro day last week and every other college player who entered into the NFL Draft, which will be held at the end of the month, the business they're about to enter is completely different from what it was as recently as a year ago.

Due to a labor impasse between owners and the NFL Player's Association, the league has imposed a lockout and brought its collective bargaining process into the courts. The draft, which will be held April 28-30 in New York, is the last date on the previous collective bargaining agreement's calendar. If no agreement is reached, rookie free agency will not exist and the 2011 season with remain in doubt.

Maddox said the prospect worries him because he feels his best shot to have an NFL career may be through getting a chance in free agency.

"[The league and player's association] need to come to a resolution," Maddox said.

King echoed those sentiments.

"It's my job right now so of course I worry about it," King said. "I'm hoping that we have a season, and we'll be able to get on the field, get paid. Really, that's what everybody's trying to do."

"I mean, I've got love for the game, but at the same time, it's a job. I'm going to love it whether I'm playing it or not. I want to work so I can get paid and do what I've got to do."

King and Maddox had no choice for when to begin their professional careers as both have exhausted their eligibility. Tori Gurley did have one. The Rock Hill native decided to forego his last two years as a Gamecock wide receiver in

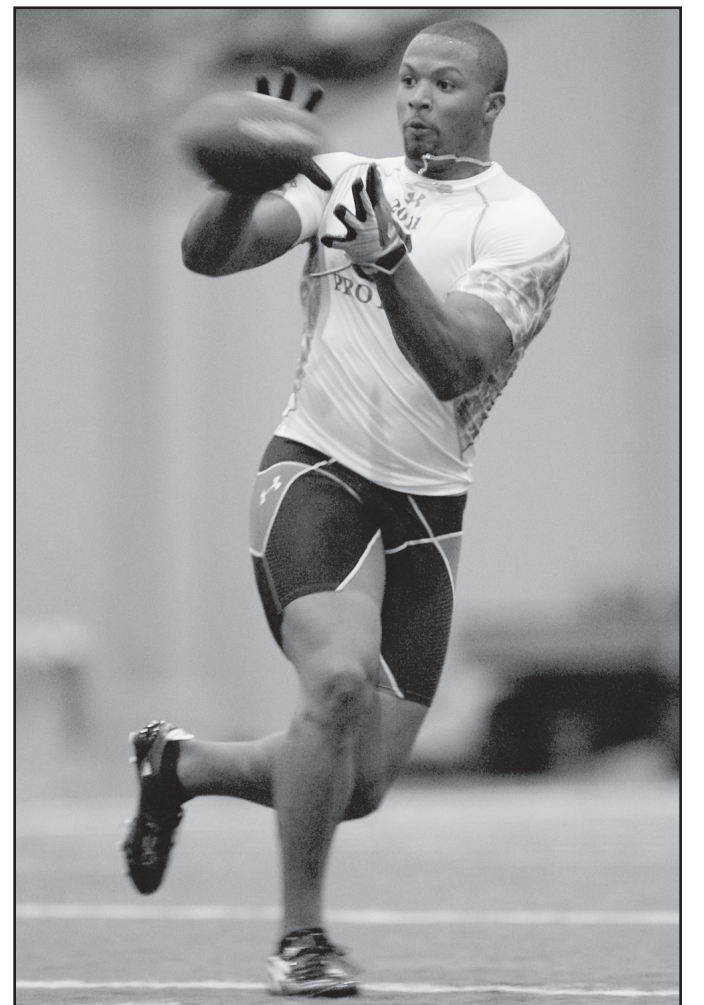
order to enter the draft early. However, Gurley said he has no regrets about his decision despite the uncertainty.

"Once you make your bed, you've got to lay in it," Gurley said. "When it's time to play football, I'm going to play football."

And when that time comes, Gurley, like his former teammates, is confident he'll be able to succeed in his new business.

"I treated it like a business when I was here at USC," Gurley said. "That's how I got on the field and played. When it came down to me switching positions from outside to slot, I just took the initiative to learn everything and be the best player I can be. I feel like I'm going in to the NFL with a chip on my shoulder knowing I can work my way to anywhere I need to be."

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Richard Pearce / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Brian Maddox, seen here working out during USC's pro day last week, is worried about the current NFL labor situation.

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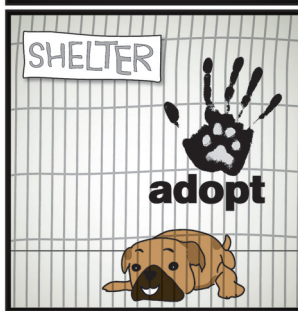


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